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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/030,821

06/18/2002

Robert Benjamin Franks

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EXAMINER

MOONEYHAM, JANICE A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3629

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/17/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/030,821

Applicant(s)

FRANKS ET AL.

Examiner

Janice A. Mooneyham

Art Unit

3629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 26-51 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to the applicant's communication filed on March 1, 2007, wherein:

Claims 1-51 are currently pending;

Claims 1-25 have been elected for prosecution;

Claims 26-51 have been withdrawn.

Election/Restrictions

2. Claims 26-51 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to nonelected inventions, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on March 1, 2007.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on June 18, 2002 is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 is directed to a method of processing transaction data relating to trademarks. However, all the applicant does in the claim limitations is display data.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over www.teas.uspto.gov retrieved from the Internet Archive Wayback Machine of date October 12, 1999, January 10, 2000, and February 8, 2000 (hereinafter referred to as TEAS) in view of Lee (US 7,016,851) (hereinafter referred to as Lee) and further in view of Takano et al (US 6,434,580) (hereinafter referred to as Takano).

Referring to Claims 1-25:

TEAS discloses a method and system for processing transaction data relating to trademarks via at least one computer entity, said comprising:

displaying country data (page 5 (country) and page 8 (select country) (the Examiner notes that the Internet Archive retrieved a page from the 5/22/2001 date showing PrintTEAS=Version1.22:8/22/2000. However, the PTO Form 1478 shows a revision date of 9/98);

displaying classification data describing a list of goods and services classified into a plurality of different categories (pages 80-106 (page last modified on February 11, 200 (see page 110));

displaying price data relating to at least one transaction price for performing a service in relation to the trademark (page 57 are your goods and/or services in more than one class; pages 28-35 last modified on May 26, 2000).

selectively inputting individual items of classification data at the user interface (page 15 (listing of goods and services));

inputting data describing a trademark (page 13 Mark information), specifying an applicant (page 12 entity type), financial data of an account of a customer (page 18 Fee information), at the interface (pages 12-19);

generating and sending a confirmation message (page 19 validate form; page 56; page 106 what is TEAS).

compiling/filtering and storing trademark, classification, price, and applicant data in a database (page 109 depository library);

transmitting trademark data to a computer entity of an official trademark office as an electronic message (pages 1 e-TEAS);

said computer entity configured to generate a trademark application order form, receive instruction data (page 1 e-TEAS);

a search engine for searching and displaying data (pages 5-6);

at least one communication means (Internet),

plurality of memory storage means (database for storing data) (page 5 Databases; page 109 Patent and Trademark Depository Library).

While TEAS is the USPTO electronic application system that can be used over the Internet, TEAS does not specifically disclose the structure of the system, wherein

Art Unit: 3629

the system comprises a computer entity comprising a server computer entity and a client computer entity; said server transmitting data to a receiving client terminal, filtering/compiling data for storage in a database, and transmitting data to the receiving computer entity; at least one processor and at least one data processor; a web server configured to display and data and receive a webpage and other data; a user interface having a visual display device and a keyboard data entry means; displaying country data in which a trademark application may be filed; and receiving an electronic filing receipt from an office trademark.

However, Lee discloses the structure of the system, wherein the system comprises a computer entity comprising a server computer entity and a client computer entity; said server transmitting data to a receiving client terminal, filtering/compiling data for storage in a database, and transmitting data to the receiving computer entity; at least one processor and at least one data processor; a web server configured to display and data and receive a webpage and other data; a user interface having a visual display device and a keyboard data entry means (Figures 1-3; col. 3, lines 42-46; col. 7, line 27 thru col. 8 line 11); and displaying country data in which a trademark application may be filed (col. 8, lines 19-37; Figure 3 jurisdiction)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate into the electronic trademark application system of TEAS the structure and ability to display country data in which the applicant may be filed as disclosed in Lee so that a party can file in multiple jurisdictions automatically in accordance with the jurisdiction requirements.

Art Unit: 3629

TEAS does not disclose receiving an electronic filing receipt from an office trademark.

However, Takano discloses an electronic filing receipt (col. 25, lines 45-50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate into the electronic trademark filing system of TEAS the electronic receipt taught in Takano so that one would have immediate proof that the document had been correctly received by the office to which it was being transmitted, thus having proof of filing and priority date.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

LegalStar published in 1998 discloses electronic forms for intellectual property practice.

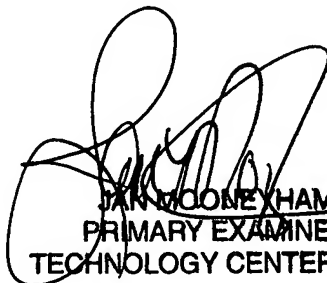
Craig Morris's paper disclosing the history of TEAS.

Art Unit: 3629

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Janice A. Mooneyham whose telephone number is (571) 272-6805. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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